(a) whether Guwahati and Shilong are big centers of narcotics smuggling in the north-east region of the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to curb smuggling of narcotics in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Although there are few reports of transit of heroin of Myanmar origin through Guwahati and Shillong, these places cannot be considered to be centers of narcotics smuggling. No esquire of heroin has been reported from these places during the years 1990 and 1992 (till date). During the year 1991, 6 kgs. of heroin in 15 cases was seized in Shilong. During the year 1991 no seiqure of heroin was reported from Guwahati. Agencies of Central and State Governments keep strict vigil in this matter.

Prices of N.T.C. Products

5885. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Textile Corporation has reduced the price of its certain products and rolling these prices back to level available in July, 1990; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). National Textile Corporation rolled back the prices of Dhotis and Sarees being produced under the Controlled Cloth Scheme, to the levels obtaining in July, 1990.

Toll Tax on Entry of Vehicles in States

5886. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which levy toll tax on entry of vehicles registered outside their States;

(b) whether the Union Government have given any directions to State Governments to withdraw such toll tax; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the policy of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) As per information available, the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and Orissa are levying an entry toll on vehicles registered outside the States.

(b) and (c). The Government of India has written to the State Governments of Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh that the levy of such tolls results in detention of vehicles, is not conducive to smooth inter-State flow of goods and passengers and results in avoidable wastage of fuel, under utilisation of vehicles leading to increased cost of transportation.

It was also pointed out to the State Governments at the meeting of the Transport Development Council held on 14-1-92 that imposition of such a toll is an undesirable development and the State Governments should desist from imposing such levies.

[*Translation*]

Darbhanga Airport

5887. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present state of Barbhanga Airport in Bihar;